



City of Alexandria

Transportation Commission

Regular Meeting

March 2, 2011

7:30 p.m.

City Council Workroom

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Donna Fossum, Jesse Jennings, Jennifer Mitchell, Kevin Posey, Louisa Ward, and Justin Wilson

Staff Present: Mark Jinks - CMO, Rich Baier - T&ES, Abi Lerner -T&ES, Karen Callaham - T&ES, Jeff Farner – P&Z, Sandra Marks - T&ES, Gabriel Ortiz- T&ES, Jim Maslanka - T&ES, Brad Putzier - DASH, Carrie Sanders -T&ES, Steve Sindiong - T&ES, Michael Stewart – OMB, Steve Kaii-Ziegler - P&Z

A quorum being present, the Chair called the Transportation Commission meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

1. February 2, 2011 Minutes

Chair Posey asked if there were any changes to be made to the February minutes. There being no changes, approval was recommended and seconded. The February minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Funding Update

T&ES staff, Jim Maslanka, reported that City Council approved the CMAQ-RSTP plan for FY2013-FY2017; received a briefing on the TDM program; and was presented the FY2012 budget at the February 8 Council meeting. No word received yet from the Commonwealth Transportation Board regarding Alexandria's request to reprogram funds. The Transportation Planning Board received reports related to WMATA Governance from the Riders' Advisory Council, Maryland, Virginia, and District of Columbia government officials. WMATA's General Manager has proposed a budget that calls for \$72.4 million of additional funding through a slate of alternatives including increased subsidies from the jurisdictions with a final adoption of the budget in June 2011. WMATA has established their governance committee that will meet until May 2011. The Commission noted that any WMATA budget issues that would affect the City of Alexandria should be brought to the Commission for their comment.

3. Complete Streets

The Transportation Subcommittee on Complete Streets met in January and revised the Complete Streets resolution. The subcommittee proposed a six month reporting requirement on instances where discretion was exercised providing relief from any elements of the policy and where capital, maintenance; small area plan and development projects were implemented. Also added to the resolution is a recommendation that a complete streets review be reflected in all staff reports for small area plan and development projects. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the revised resolution and forward to City Council for their approval subject to the change in No.7 from “annual reporting” to “reporting every 2 years” and the additional language added to No. 8 which states to “bring back for review and reenactment in 2 years”. The revised resolution was voted on and unanimously approved.

4. RSTP/CMAQ Plan

Jim Maslanka quantified RSTP/CMAQ projects funding and the process of how they are approved and distributed. He provided the list of City Council approved RSTP/CMAQ projects recommended by the Transportation Commission and approved by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA). The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) should adopt this program of projects as part of its Six-Year Plan in May, 2011.

5. Long Range TDM Plan

The plan provides long-term planning, goals, strategies, performance management and budgeting guidance for the operation of the City’s TDM plan. Gabe Ortiz, T&ES staff elaborated on the City’s TDM marketing efforts and programs to increase transit use and other alternatives that could reduce SOV travel. A motion was made to forward to City Council for approval, staff’s program recommendations and opportunities identified by the City’s Long Range TDM plan. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

6. Funding for Priority Transportation Projects

At the February meeting, the Commission approved a recommendation that the City Manager include in his budget, the draft list of Priority Transportation projects to be funded by a potential Add-On Tax. The project list was revised after receiving input from the Commissioners, Council, Planning Commission and community outreach feedback. A motion to endorse the use of an Add-On Tax for funding high priority transportation projects in the 2012 City budget was made, seconded and approved.

Commissioner Fossum made a motion for the Transportation Commission to refer to the Commercial Real Estate Tax as the “Add-on Tax”. The motion was seconded, voted on and unanimously approved.

7. Staff Updates

The Commission received the staff updates.

8. Commission Updates

Chair Posey announced Commissioners Mitchell and Ward were selected to be the Commission’s Subcommittee on Long Range Plan Updates.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 9:15 pm, seconded and unanimously accepted.

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